

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 L-03 /033 R

DRAFTED BY CU/ARA:MCHAPLIN:JLA

APPROVED BY CU/ARA:MCHAPLIN

ARA/MEX - JDREYFUSS (PHONE)

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P 072120Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 238981

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC, MX

SUBJECT: US-MEXICO CULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING

REF: FON OFF NOTE OF 8 SEPT 75 ON THIS SUBJECT

1. DEPT CONCERNED THAT DRAFT REPORT ON SECOND CULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING WHICH WAS ENCLOSED WITH REF NOTE CONTAINS REFERENCES TO A PROGRAM OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE FOR THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD 1976-77. DRAFT AGENDA ITEM FOUR PROPOSES DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS TO EXECUTE PROGRAM. BOTH OF THESE MATTERS SUGGEST THAT GOM SEEKS OPERATIONAL ROLE FOR COMMISSION NOT ENVISAGED BY BILATERAL AGREEMENT, WHICH DESCRIBES COMMISSION'S ACTIVITIES AS PRIMARILY ADVISORY. DEPT DOES NOT BELIEVE PARA 3 (F) OF 1972 AGREEMENT SHOULD BE CONSTRUED AS GIVING COMMISSION AN OPERATIONAL ROLE. DEPT IS NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS FINANCING OF FUTURE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS WITH MEXICO, AND IS BARRED FROM COMMITMENT OF FUNDS NOT YET AUTHORIZED AND APPROPRIATED. IN THIS CONNECTION, EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH OF 1949 CULTURAL BILATERAL IS STILL IN EFFECT.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN SIGNIFICANCE OF
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REFERENCES TO TWO-YEAR PROGRAM AND TO INFORM THE FOREIGN

MINISTRY OF DEPT'S VIEWS THAT COMMISSION CANNOT EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT AN OPERATIONAL OR EXECUTIVE FUNCTION, WHILE BROAD PLANNING OR ADVISORY FUNCTIONS CONTINUE TO BE A VALUABLE ROLE FOR THE COMMISSION. EMBASSY ALSO SHOULD INFORM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THE DEPARTMENT PREFERS TO ELIMINATE ITEM 4(A) FROM MEXICAN DRAFT AGENDA.

3. EMBASSY COMMENTS REQUESTED ON ANY OTHER ASPECTS OF DRAFT AGENDA AND DRAFT REPORT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE238981
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MCHAPLIN:JLA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750348-0478
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751077/aaaacqut.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 OCT 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-MEXICO CULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING
TAGS: OEXC, MX
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006